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a base for supporting a lower portion of the inner receptacle, the base including a peripheral frame portion defining at least one relatively large opening therebetween;
a first pair of opposed walls extending upwardly from the peripheral frame portion; and
a second pair of opposed walls extending upwardly from the peripheral frame portion and attached to the first pair of opposed walls, wherein the first and second pairs of opposed walls and the base define a compartment area for removably receiving the inner receptacle therein.

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14. (Amended) A container adapted to receive an inner receptacle arranged to hold merchandise therein, the container comprising:

a base including a peripheral frame portion;
a first pair of opposed walls integrally formed with and extending upwardly from the peripheral frame portion; and
a second pair of opposed walls integrally formed with and extending upwardly from the peripheral frame portion and integrally formed with the first pair of opposed walls, wherein the first and second pairs of opposed walls and the base define a compartment area for removably receiving and supporting the inner receptacle therein.

20. (Amended) The container according to claim 18, wherein the exterior ring is releasably attached to the peripheral frame portion.

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21. (Amended) The container according to claim 18, wherein the first and second pairs of opposed walls include a plurality of relatively large apertures which represent a substantial portion of each of the first and second pairs of opposed walls.

22. (Amended) The container according to claim 18, wherein at least one of the first and second pairs of opposed walls includes attachment members for securing the inner receptacle within the compartment area.

23. (Amended) The container according to claim 18, wherein the first and second pairs of opposed walls are each pivotably attached to the peripheral frame portion and releasably attached to each other, such that the first and second pairs of opposed walls are orientable between an assembled position and a collapsed position.

5-10 B²⁷
24. (Amended) A collapsible container adapted to receive an inner receptacle of unitary construction, the container comprising:

a base for supporting a lower portion of the inner receptacle, the base having a peripheral frame portion defining at least one relatively large opening therebetween;

a first pair of opposed walls pivotably attached to the peripheral frame portion and movable between an assembled position and a collapsed position; and

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a second pair of opposed walls pivotably attached to the peripheral frame portion and movable between an assembled position and a collapsed position, each of the second pair of opposed walls releasably attached to an adjacent one of the first pair of opposed walls in the assembled position, wherein orienting the first and second pairs of opposed walls in the assembled position defines a compartment area for removably receiving the inner receptacle therein.

25. (Amended) The container according to claim 24, wherein one of the first and second pairs of opposed walls includes a guide projection and the other includes a guide receiver for aligning the first and second pairs of opposed walls in the assembled position.

26. (Amended) The container according to claim 24, wherein one of the first and second pairs of opposed walls includes a latch and the other includes a latch receiver for securing the first and second pairs of opposed walls in the assembled position.

27. (Amended) The collapsible container according to claim 26, wherein the latch receiver is disposed within a flange depending inwardly from each of the first pair of opposed walls, the latch receiver having a latch aperture and a user actuable release portion, wherein the latch aperture is sized for slidably receiving the corresponding latch when the container is oriented in the assembled position, such that to release the container from the

assembled position, the user actuatable release portion is actuated by a user to release the latch from the latch aperture.

28. (Amended) The collapsible container according to claim 24, wherein the peripheral frame portion includes an inwardly extending flange for supporting the lower portion of the inner receptacle.

29. (Amended) The collapsible container according to claim 24, further comprising a base member extending across the relatively large opening.

30. (Amended) The collapsible container according to claim 29, wherein the base member includes at least one cross-member attached to the peripheral frame portion.

31. (Amended) The collapsible container according to claim 29, wherein the base member includes an exterior ring and a lightweight support material affixed thereacross, the exterior ring adapted to be supported by an inwardly extending flange of the peripheral frame portion.

32. (Amended) The collapsible container according to claim 24, wherein at least one of the first and second pairs of opposed walls includes attachment members for securing the inner receptacle to the opposed walls.

33. (Amended) A container assembly, comprising:

a base including a peripheral frame portion defining at least one relatively large opening therebetween;

a first pair of opposed walls extending upwardly from the peripheral frame portion;

a second pair of opposed walls extending upwardly from the peripheral frame portion and attached to the first pair of opposed walls, wherein the first and second pairs of opposed walls and the base define a compartment area; and

an inner receptacle of unitary construction which is arranged to hold merchandise therein, wherein the inner receptacle is removably received within the compartment area.

34. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 33, wherein the inner receptacle is disposable.

35. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 33, wherein the inner receptacle includes a box.

36. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 33, wherein the inner receptacle includes a bag.

37. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 33, wherein the inner receptacle includes a plurality of ventilation apertures.

38. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 33, wherein the inner receptacle is flexible.

39. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 33, wherein the peripheral frame portion includes an inwardly extending flange for supporting the lower portion of the inner receptacle.

40. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 33, further comprising a base member extending across the relatively large opening.

41. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 40, wherein the base member includes at least one cross-member attached to the peripheral frame portion.

42. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 40, wherein the base member includes an exterior ring and a lightweight support material affixed thereacross,

the exterior ring adapted to be supported by an inwardly extending flange of the peripheral frame portion.

43. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 33, wherein the first and second pairs of opposed walls include a plurality of relatively large apertures which represent a substantial portion of each of the first and second pairs of opposed walls.

44. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 33, wherein at least one of the first and second pairs of opposed walls includes attachment members for securing the inner receptacle to the opposed walls.

45. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 44, wherein the attachment members suspend the inner receptacle within the compartment area.

46. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 33, wherein at least one of the first and second pairs of opposed walls includes an integral handle.

47. (Amended) The container assembly according to claim 33, wherein the first and second pairs of opposed walls are each pivotably attached to the peripheral frame portion and releasably attached to each other, such that the first and second pairs of opposed walls are orientable between an assembled position and a collapsed position.

48. (Amended) The container according to claim 47, wherein one of the first and second pairs of opposed walls includes a guide projection and the other includes a guide receiver for aligning the first and second pairs of opposed walls in the assembled position.

49. (Amended) The container according to claim 47, wherein one of the first and second pairs of opposed walls includes a latch and the other includes a latch receiver for securing the first and second pairs of opposed walls in the assembled position.
